DRAGONAR
ACADEMY
ART BY
RAN
STORY BY
SHIKI MIZUCHI
10

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HEY, OSCAR ...?
HERE. I'VE GOT THE DOCU-MENTS YOU WANTED.
WHAT IS IT, CELES?
THERE YOU ARE.

Chapter XLV
The Return of Rebecca Randall

Chapter XLV
The Return of Rebecca Randall

THANKS FOR GETTING THESE.
HMM, I SEE.
THE KING OF CHEVRON'S FINALLY CLUED IN THAT THERE'S AN HEIR TO THE IMPERIAL HOUSE OF THE HOLY DRAGONS, HUH?
NOW THAT ECO'S AWAKENED...
THE WHOLE WORLD IS IN TURMOIL.
NOT TO MENTION YOU...
CELESTINA.
BUT ME?
I HAVE MY STEED, TRISTAN, AT MY SIDE.

DRAGONAR
ACADEMY
10
ART
RAN
STORY
SHIKI MIZUCHI
CHARACTER DESIGN
KOHADA SHIMESABA

Ansullivan Dragonar Academy: a school for boys and girls who've made pacts with dragons! Ash Blake is a student at the academy, but he's an embarrassment to the School--even though he has a Star Mark (the symbol of his pact), his dragon has yet to be born.
While Ash was participating in the Dragonar Festival of Aries, he was attacked and nearly killed by a man who seemed to be an imperial soldier. With Ash moments away from death, his Steed finally awakens. However, unlike all the other students' Steeds, Ash's dragon, who he names Eco, has the shape of a young human girl.
"YOU ARE NOT MY KEEPER! I AM YOUR KEEPER!!!"
SMILE
DRAGONAR ACADEMY
THE STORY SO FAR
Ash and Eco try to settle into daily life together, but their efforts are thwarted when the town is attacked by a Necromancia! Ash, armored by the Ark Eco created for him and wielding the holy blade Aix-les-Bains, is able to counter the Necromancia's assault and protect Ansullivan!
FWOOM

By sheer force of will, young Ash transferred the Star Mark intended for *him* to Sylvia!
His choice nearly costs him his life. In order to save him, the Mother Dragon entrusts him with a very special dragon--Eco.
Ash, Eco, and Sylvia venture to the Holy Forest of Albion in order to have an audience with the Mother Dragon... but not long after arriving, Ash collapses!
The Mother Dragon restores his memories of his first meeting with Sylvia, when the two of them were children, and reveals the event that twisted and entwined their fates.
In the present, fearing for Eco, the Mother Dragon gives Ash the Bracelet of Avalon to give to Eco, which will prevent her from shifting into her draconic form. The Mother Dragon also reveals that Eco is capable of having offspring with a human!
And as for Sylvia, who has likewise regained her memory of her first meeting with Ash, she finally confesses her feelings for him...!

SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

DRAGONAR ACADEMY VOLUME 10

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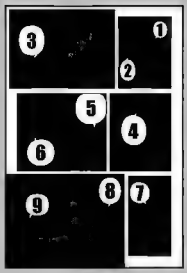
READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from ***right to left***, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!



I HEAR URIEL IS BEGINNING TO MAKE A REAL MOVE, TOO.
HEH! I SUPPOSE I AM.
YOU'RE AWFULLY RELAXED, GIVEN THAT YOU MAY BE ABOUT TO MAKE ENEMIES OF YOUR OWN FATHER AND ELDER BROTHER.
YOU MEAN THE SECOND PRINCESS OF HOUSE LAUTREA-MONT, DON'T YOU?
HA HA!
THE RUMOR BACK HOME IS THAT HE'S BEEN TRICKED INTO ACTION BY A WHORE.
BUT NO MATTER WHO I END UP FACING, I WON'T LOSE.
CASSANDRA LAUTREA-MONT, THE SO-CALLED "DIABOLIC BELLADON-NA"...
YOU TWO WILL BOTH FOLLOW ME, WON'T YOU?
SHE'S THE ONLY TRUE MAVERICK OUT OF THE FOUR SISTERS-- A REAL WITCH, THAT ONE.

WE FAILURES MAY AS WELL STICK TOGETHER.
WELL, I SUPPOSE THAT...
HMPH.
GRRAAAR!
オオオ
I CAN WORK WITH THAT.
SHFT
LISTEN UP, WORLD! I'M OSCAR BRAILSFORD...
AND ONE DAY, I'LL BE KING OF CHEVRON!!

ANSUL-LIVAN DRAGO-NAR ACADEMY.
AHH-HHH...
NOW THIS IS MORE LIKE IT.
THINGS'D BE PRACTICALLY PERFECT IF SUMMER VACATION WEREN'T SO CLOSE TO OVER.
ROLL
MY ROOM'S ALL FIXED UP AFTER GETTING TRASHED...
AND WE'VE GOT SOME PEACE AND QUIET AT LAST.

.....
RIGHT, ECO?

AFTER I GAVE HER THE BRACELET OF AVALON, THAT THE MOTHER DRAGON GAVE ME FOR HER...
ECO SAID SHE'D TREASURE IT DEARLY. SHE'S BEEN TRAINING HARD WITH NAVI EVERY DAY TO MASTER IT.

LATELY, ECO KEEPS DISAPPEARING OFF TO THE DRAGON'S WORKSHOP LIKE THIS.

I WONDER IF I'M GONNA HAVE TO BREAK THAT TO ECO SOMETIME...!!
BUT... THE MOTHER DRAGON DOESN'T HAVE VERY LONG LEFT.
IT'S AMAZING HOW HARD ECO'S WORKING AT THIS. SHE'S THROWING HERSELF RIGHT INTO IT.
SHE MUST REALLY ADORE THE MOTHER DRAGON.
I FINALLY REMEMBERED WHAT HAPPENED ALL THOSE YEARS AGO.
A WHOLE LOT HAPPENED TO ME, TOO.
AND THEN...
IT'S SO HARD TO BELIEVE THAT...
THE PRINCESS AND I MET WAY BACK DURING THE ORPHAN CEREMONY.
TO THINK SHE'D DO THAT--

URRRRGHHHH!!
RECOIL
JOLT
がばっ
E-ECO?! YOU'RE BACK?!
UGH, THAT DARN NAVI PISSES ME OFF SOOOOO MUCH!!
ER... ARE YOU DOING OKAY?
STEAM
STEAM
HUH ...?
UM...! I MEAN... IT'S NO BIG DEAL!
BLUSH!
"GETTING SO ANGRY OVER A LITTLE THING LIKE A KISS...
MRR!
MRR!
"JUST GOES TO SHOW YOUR QUALITY AS A WOMAN IS AS INSUBSTANTIAL AS YOUR CHEST," SHE SAID! UNBELIEVABLE!

C-COME ON, DON'T BE LIKE THAT.
AND... AND IT WASN'T MY IDEA...
YOU BET I AM! WHY WOULDN'T I BE?!
THAT SYLVIA! I'LL NEVER FORGIVE HER!
AND, UH... BY "KISS," DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE STILL MAD ABOUT THE PRI--
WELL... FORGET-TING IT WOULD BE...
RUDE TO THE PRIN-CESS...
mumble
I GUESS YOU'VE PRETTY MUCH FOR-GOTTEN IT COMPLETELY, THEN?
OH, REALLY?
DONE WHAT?
.....
THERE, SEE?!
I KNEW IT! I SHOULD'VE GONE AHEAD AND DONE IT BACK THEN!
WELL, I...
BACK THEN... THAT TIME...!!

I WANTED TO DO IT, TOO.
I WANTED TO...
KISS YOU, TOO...!!

HUH ?!
ECO ...?
UM ...!
FUMP
ECO.
ER...
ECO ...?
THAT'S WEIRD.
WAIT A SEC...
She's not moving at all.

SLUMP
SIGH...
SERI-OUSLY, WHAT THE HECK?
I KNEW IT!
SHE WENT OFF TO THE DRAGON'S WORKSHOP AGAIN!!

BACK THEN...
THAT'S HOW I FELT, TOO.

I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO START!
BUT HOW CAN I LET YOU KNOW THAT?!
WHY NOT TAKE THE INITIATIVE AND BE THE ONE TO KISS HER, HMM?

BUT TO BE HONEST, KNOWING HOW YOU FELT...
FWOO...
IS ENOUGH TO MAKE ME HAPPY.

THE FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM HERE IS THAT SHE'S UPSET ABOUT NOT GETTING TO KISS YOU, ISN'T IT?
I... SHOULD KISS HER...
HUH ?!
SO, ISN'T THE EASIEST SOLUTION TO JUST...
GO AHEAD AND KISS HER, SO SHE KNOWS YOU WANT IT TOO?

R-REBEC-CA!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!

OR... HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN HERE?
HEE HEE! DON'T FRET ABOUT THAT.
WHAT MATTERS IS...
HOW LONG IT'S BEEN SINCE WE'VE SEEN EACH OTHER, ASH.

I MUST SAY I'M SUR-PRISED.
URK!
TO THINK, THERE I WAS, ENJOYING MY VACATION BACK HOME...
WHILE YOU WERE OFF DEVELOPING YOUR RELA-TIONSHIPS WITH ECO AND SYLVIA...!
Hee hee...
H-HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT?!
A LITTLE BIRD WROTE AND TOLD ME ALL ABOUT IT.

I FELT LIKE I WAS READING A ROMANCE NOVEL!
ESPECIALLY AT THE END, WHEN SYLVIA ANNOUNCED HER LOVE AND KISSED YOU...!
AND THEN, ECO'S HEART WAS SET AFLAME WITH RIVALRY...
SERIOUSLY, IT WAS JUST LIKE A STORY!
NNN-GH...
ERRR...!
HM?
WHAT'S GOT YOU SO DOWN NOW?
REBECCA, DO YOU HONESTLY NOT REALIZE...
THAT I WAS ALREADY DOWN, AND YOU JUST MADE IT WORSE...?
HEH!
DEAR ME.
IF SO, I DO APOLO-GIZE.
FWSH
CLOK

……!
CLOK
CLOK

REBEC-
CA...?
U-
UM...

THERE, NOW. FEELING A LITTLE BETTER?
SORRY ABOUT THAT.
I WAS JUST SO DELIGHTED TO SEE YOU AGAIN...
THAT I COULDN'T HELP TEASING YOU A LITTLE.
GAPE
REBEC-CA...!

NOW, TELL ME...
ARE YOU PLANNING TO RECORD WHAT JUST HAPPENED FOR POSTERITY AS WELL...
CO-SETTE ?
HUH?
UH... YEAH. I FEEL BETTER.
fret
fret
REALLY? GOOD.
WELL, NATURALLY!
?!
SOMETHING TO THE EFFECT OF... "A FORMIDABLE NEW OBSTACLE APPEARS IN THE PATH OF THE PRINCESS'S ROMANCE," I THINK. ♡
GAH! C-COSETTE !!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP THERE?!
TEE HEE HEE!
IT'S LOVELY TO SEE YOU, ASH. ♡
IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE YOU INTENDED TO BETRAY YOUR PRESENCE ANY TIME SOON, SO I DECIDED TO BE PROACTIVE ABOUT REVEALING YOU.
HUH ?
DROP
THAT'S ONLY TO BE EXPECTED! I KNEW I COULDN'T HIDE MYSELF FROM YOU.

BUT AS IT'S NOW POSSIBLE THAT ASH COULD ONE DAY MARRY MY BELOVED PRINCESS...
I, HER FAITHFUL CONFI-DANTE...
WILL DO ALL I CAN FOR HER SAKE, WHATEVER IT MAY COST ME! ♡
THAT'S GREAT, I GUESS, BUT YOU'RE TRES-PASSING.
BOTH OF YOU!
YOU'RE LUMPING ME IN WITH HER?
How heartless, Ash!
I SURE AM!
THIS IS A BOYS' DORM!

COSETTE IS THE ONE WHO WROTE ME ABOUT RECENT EVENTS, YOU SEE.
SHE'S A SHREWD ONE!

DON'T TELL ME YOU TWO ARE WORKING TOGETHER OR SOME-THING...?
GRA-CIOUS, NO.
SHE WAS HERE LONG BEFORE I ARRIVED.
SHE WHAT ?!!

ASH...
WHILE ECO IS SLEEPING, MIGHT I...
ASK SOME-THING OF YOU?

IT HAS TO DO WITH HER HIGHNESS' CONFESSION TO YOU.
THIS REQUEST COMES FROM ME, NOT HER.
IT WOULD MEAN A LOT IF YOU BEHAVED THE SAME WAY TOWARD PRINCESS SYLVIA AS YOU ALWAYS HAVE.
THE SAME AS USUAL, HUH?
SIGH...
YOU KNOW HOW SHE IS. IF YOU ACKNOWLEDGE WHAT HAPPENED, HOWEVER SLIGHTLY...
SHE'D PROBABLY DIE OF EMBARRASSMENT ON THE SPOT.
Hee hee! I can totally see it.
O-OKAY.
AND AS FOR GIVING HER AN ANSWER, YOU NEEDN'T RUSH YOURSELF.
ACTUALLY, YOU SAYING THAT MAKES ME FEEL BETTER. OKAY, THEN.

AND ON THAT NOTE...
YOU'RE SERIOUSLY LEAVING THROUGH THE WINDOW?
I'LL BE OFF! ♡

I SHOULD HEAD OFF TOO, BEFORE ANYONE NOTICES CÚCHULAINN HOVERING OUTSIDE...
BUT FIRST, I HAVE A STUDENT COUNCIL-RELATED MESSAGE FOR YOU.

TOMORROW AFTERNOON, THERE'S A MEETING OF ALL THE COUNCIL OFFICERS AT 1 P.M.
LETTERS HAVE BEEN SENT OUT NOTIFYING EVERYONE.

I BET I KNOW WHY!
It's already that time of the year, isn't it?
ARE WE MEETING TO DISCUSS THE DRAG-ONAR FESTIVAL OF LIBRA?

THAT'S A LAZY ANSWER!
YOU'RE ONLY HALF CORRECT.

SINCE IT SEEMS YOU'VE FORGOTTEN, LISTEN UP!
THIS YEAR MARKS THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF ANSULLIVAN DRAGONAR ACADEMY!
TO MARK THE EVENT, THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL IS BEING CALLED THE "ANSULLIVAN QUINCENTENNIAL FESTIVAL"...
AND IT WILL BE FAR MORE MAGNIFICENT THAN USUAL!
THE ANSULLIVAN...
QUINCENTENNIAL FESTIVAL...!
I HAD NO IDEA THIS YEAR WAS SO SIGNIFICANT...!
YES.
I'M INCREDIBLY HONORED TO BE THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT DURING SUCH A HISTORIC YEAR.

SO MANY AMAZING THINGS KEEP HAPPENING AROUND ME!
.....
PRESI-DENT?
WHAT'S WRONG?
NO, NO, IT'S NOTH-ING.
I'LL BE GOING NOW.
BUT LET ME SAY...
THIS YEAR BEING THE ANNIVER-SARY OF ANSULLIVAN'S FOUNDING...
ISN'T THE ONLY REASON I FEEL SO HONORED.

ASH...
HUH ...?
WHAT ELSE IS THERE?
ARE THE MOMENTS OF MY SCHOOL LIFE...
WHAT I CHERISH MOST...
THAT I'VE BEEN ABLE TO SPEND WITH YOU.

TRY NOT TO CATCH COLD.
GOOD NIGHT, NOW.
.....
REBECCA ...
AAA-AAH! WHAT THE HECK?!
THE DRAG-ONS' WORK-SHOP.

YOU KNOW, ECO, DELIBERATELY COMING HERE IN ORDER TO SPY ON HIM...
IS TERRI-BLY UNCOUTH.
WHY IS ASH SWOONING OVER HER LIKE THAT?!

YOU'LL NEVER TAKE YOUR PLACE AS THE KNIGHT OF AVALON'S PRIMARY WIFE.
IF YOU KEEP YELLING AT THE GIRLS AROUND HIM OVER SUCH TRIVIAL THINGS...

YOU BE QUIET !!
WHY IS THIS HAPPEN-ING?! WHAT'S REBECCA UP TO?!
DON'T TELL ME THAT CRAFTY WOMAN'S AFTER ASH, TOO?!
SIGH...

DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO BE QUIET?!
I... I'M NOT GONNA LOSE TO ANYONE ...!

I'VE MADE MY DECI-SION.
ASH...
I...
CHOOSE YOU.

星刻の竜騎士

DRAGONAR
ACADEMY

WH-WHAT IN THE WORLD ?!
WHAT'S WITH THE GIANT HEAP OF PRESENTS ?!
OH, SYLVIA! YOU MADE IT.
AREN'T WE HAVING A STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING TODAY?
WE ARE INDEED.
FIRST, HOW-EVER...
Chapter XLVI
The Sonic Baron (Part 1)

SAD...
HAVE YOU ALL HAD TIME TO REFLECT ON THIS SITUATION?
UH...

WHAT HAP-PENED, EXACTLY?
LET ME EXPLAIN.

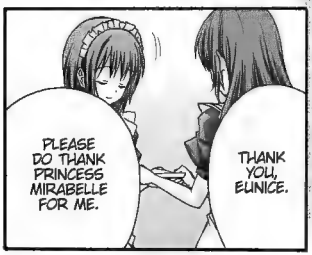
JESSICA AND LUCCA BOTH...
BARGED INTO ASH'S ROOM WITH THEIR STEEDS AGAIN.
THEY TRIED TO OUTDO EACH OTHER WITH GIVING HIM GIFTS FROM BACK HOME.

LISTEN, YOU TWO!
AGAIN?! HOW DO THEY KEEP DOING SUCH STUPID THINGS?

GLOWER
UM, ECO... WHY AM I BEING FORCED TO SIT WITH THEM AND REFLECT ON MY BEHAVIOR?
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?
THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE TRASHED ASH'S ROOM! OR HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THAT?
AND TO MAKE THINGS WORSE, YOU'RE STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS! IF YOU MUST COMPETE THIS WAY, CHOOSE MORE APPROPRIATE BATTLEFIELDS!
DESPONDENT
RUUMBLE... ヌオオ
ACTUALLY, THEY KNOCKED ME OVER WHEN THEY CAME FLYING INTO THE ROOM.
DON'T TALK BACK! IF YOU TRY DENYING IT, I'LL TRAMPLE YOU AS PUNISHMENT!
BECAUSE YOU WERE GETTING ALL COZY WITH THEM IN THAT MOUNTAIN OF PRESENTS!

STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING UNDER-WAY!
LET'S GET THIS...
LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS SHALL WE?
WE'VE ALREADY SPENT TOO MUCH TIME ON TRIVIAL MATTERS.
TODAY'S TOPIC OF DISCUS-SION IS...
THE UPCOMING ANSULLIVAN QUINCEN-TENNIAL FESTIVAL.

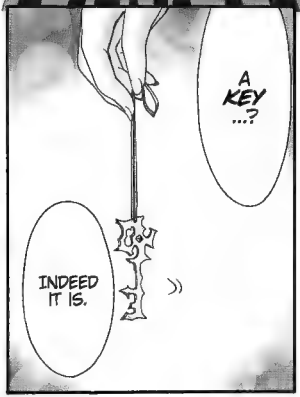
COSETTE ASKED ME TO KEEP ACTING NORMALLY AROUND HER.
MAYBE I SHOULD TRY STRIKING UP A CONVERSATION, LIKE I USUALLY WOULD?
PRINCESS...
THAT THIEVING CAT! I'LL NEVER, EVER FORGIVE HER...!!
BUT THEN AGAIN...
KNOCK KNOCK
AWW, CRUD. WHAT SHOULD I DO?
HOLD THAT THOUGHT.
YES? COME IN.
KACHAK
ガチャ
EXCUSE ME.


PLEASE DO THANK PRINCESS MIRABELLE FOR ME.
THANK YOU, EUNICE.

rustle
HMM? REBECCA, IS THAT...

I BEG YOUR PARDON, MISS REBECCA.
I'VE BROUGHT THE ITEM YOU ASKED FOR.

I HAVE GOOD NEWS TO SHARE WITH YOU ALL.
THE STUDENT COUNCIL HAS BEEN MAKING USE OF THIS ROOM FOR SOME TIME NOW, BUT...

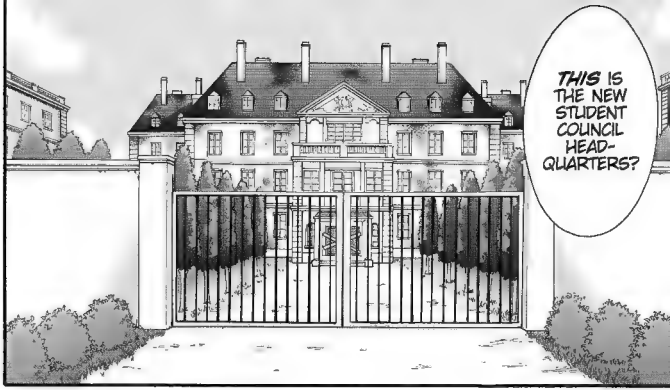

A KEY ...?
INDEED IT IS.

AND THE UPSHOT IS THAT WE'LL BE USING A NEW OFFICE FROM THIS POINT ON!
I DISCUSSED THE SITUATION WITH PRINCESS MIRABELLE...
A NEW OFFICE?

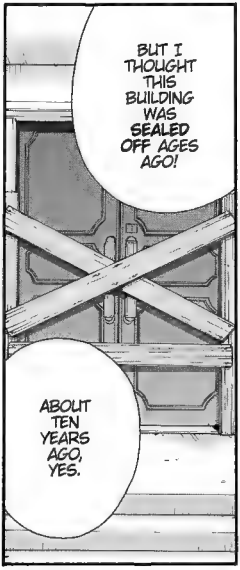
DUE TO THE INCREASED NUMBER OF MEMBERS THIS YEAR...
THIS SPACE HAS BEEN FEELING A WEE BIT CRAMPED.

I WANT TO SHOW YOU ALL OUR NEW SPACE!

AND THAT'S ITS KEY?
JUST SO. LET'S TAKE A BREAK FOR NOW.


THIS IS THE NEW STUDENT COUNCIL HEAD-QUARTERS?

ACTUALLY, IT WAS ORIGINALLY CONSTRUCTED FOR THE USE OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL.
RATTLE


BUT I THOUGHT THIS BUILDING WAS SEALED OFF AGES AGO!
ABOUT TEN YEARS AGO, YES.

WHY WAS IT SEALED UP, THEN?
.....

THIS BUILDING IS CALLED...
JULIUS HALL.
HUH ...?!
WAIT, YOU MEAN --!

EXACTLY. IT WAS BUILT DURING THE PERIOD WHEN JULIUS LAUTREAMONT WAS PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL.
HE NEGOTIATED WITH THE ACADEMY'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO HAVE IT CONSTRUCTED.

APPARENTLY, PRINCE JULIUS DREAMED OF HAVING A MANSION ON CAMPUS...
FOR THE STUDENT COUNCIL TO USE AS THEIR BASE OF OPERATIONS.
HIS DREAM CAME TRUE...
BUT LESS THAN A YEAR LATER, THE BUILDING'S PURPOSE AND ITS VERY NAME WERE SWEPT UNDER THE RUG. IT WAS LOCKED AWAY.

BUT...
THINGS HAVE CHANGED NOW!

.....
AFTER... AFTER THE DRAGON SLAYING...

BUT AT THE VERY LEAST, JULIUS HALL SHOULD BE RE-OPENED!
IT MAY BE SOME TIME YET BEFORE THE TRUTH CAN BE ANNOUNCED TO THE WORLD AT LARGE...

RECENT EVENTS HAVE BROUGHT TO LIGHT...
THE FACT THAT PRINCE JULIUS WAS NEITHER CORRUPT NOR IMMORAL.

PRESI-DENT...
WE HAVE PRINCESS MIRABELLE'S PERMISSION TO DO JUST THAT.

LIGHT-
NING
BLAST
!!
KRA-KOOM
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE

PRESI-
DENT...
THANK
YOU
SO
MUCH
...!!
AND
NOW,
SYLVIA...
THE HONOR
OF UNLOCKING
THE MANSION
YOUR BROTHER
BUILT SHOULD
BE YOURS.
CLICK...!
KA-CHAK
STEP

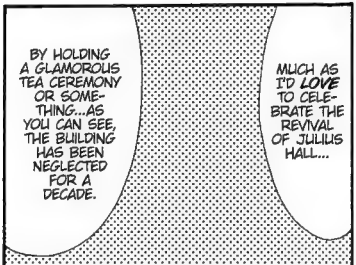
CLAP
CLAP
CON-
GRATU-
LATIONS
!!
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
THANK
YOU
...!
HMPH.
IT IS
WHAT
IT IS.
THANK
YOU SO
MUCH,
EVERY-
ONE.
OH!

ASH...
THANK YOU ...!

I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU...
PRIN-CESS.

NOW, THEN.
ECO, PLEASE STOP...!
Gaaah!

PINCH
OW, OW, OW!!


BY HOLDING A GLAMOROUS TEA CEREMONY OR SOME-THING...AS YOU CAN SEE, THE BUILDING HAS BEEN NEGLECTED FOR A DECADE.
MUCH AS I'D LOVE TO CELE-BRATE THE REVIVAL OF JULIUS HALL...

UGH...
CAW CAW
FIRST THINGS FIRST! IT'S TIME TO UNDERTAKE THE GREAT CLEAN-UP OF JULIUS HALL!
FWOO!
COUGH!
COUGH!
S-SO MUCH DUST...! BUT I GUESS IT'S HAD TEN YEARS TO BUILD UP.
ASH
WAIT, PRINCESS! YOU'RE IN THE WAY--
EEEP!
THUD
HII-YAA-HHH --!!
CLATTER

WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING, JESSICA?!
ME?! IT WAS ALL YOUR FAULT!
UM... ARE YOU TWO ALL RIGHT?
NGH!
TUG
TUG
.....!
LET GO OF THAT!
.....
NO, YOU LET GO!
THIS IS MORE OF A WAR ZONE THAN A CLEAN-UP, HUH?
Hmm.
YOU MAY BE RIGHT.

I DID MENTION TO THEM EARLIER THAT YOU LIKE A WOMAN WHO KNOWS HOW TO CLEAN, BUT...
YOU WHAT?!
PERHAPS IT WAS A LITTLE TOO EFFECTIVE.
Hmm.
HOW COULD YOU DO THAT?!
BUT YOU'RE QUITE THE SCHEMER, AREN'T YOU?
ARE YOU TRYING TO TURN THE STUDENT COUNCIL INTO YOUR OWN PERSONAL HAREM?
I MOST CERTAINLY AM NOT!!
Ash
AT THIS RATE, WE'LL NEVER GET THIS PLACE CLEANED UP!
FWSK
WILL YOU GUYS PLEASE TRY TO FOCUS?!
TUG
TUG
!
HEH! I KNOW.

RELEASE
AH --!

JUST NEED TO GET THIS ANGLED RIGHT...
SLOWLY...

BUMP
NGH ?!

WHAM!
YEEEK!
OOF!

AHH!
THWHUD
MY GLASS-ES!

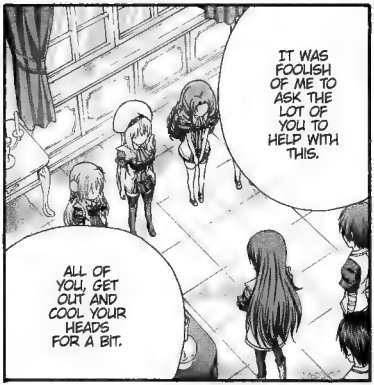
UNNH ...
HUH ?!
STRIPES ...?! WHAT AM I LOOKING AT...?!
MRR-RPH ?!
AH ...!!

ASH IS BREATH-ING ON--!
AH ...!
MUU --!!
MRRP-PPH?!
GMGG-HHH!!
PRESS
RRRUMMMBLE
AH ...!
HMM?
URK... SMOTHER-ING ME LIKE THAT...!

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE CONFUSION TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS...?!
DO... DO YOU WANT ME TO TRAMPLE YOU TO DEATH?
SO SHAME-LESS!
AS A DRAGONAR, YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED OF YOUR-SELF...!!
I'M SO JEALOUS OF YOU, LUCCA!
TRADE PLACES WITH ME RIGHT THIS--!
F-FRRSSSS
NO! THIS WAS TOTALLY NOT MY IDEA!
WAAAHHH!!
AND, JESSICA, HOW COULD YOU MISS THE POINT THAT BADLY?!
AH ...!
I... CAN'T... HANDLE IT....!!
SHUDDER
SHUDDER

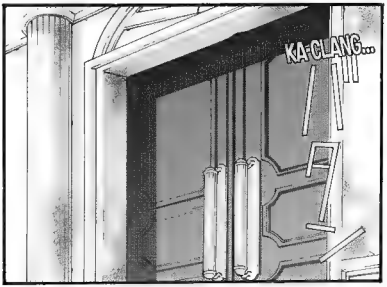
A-ASH, YOU'RE... HORRIBLE...
はぁ HUFF
あ HUFF...
NO ONE WILL... EVER WANT TO M-MARRY ME AFTER THIS.
ECO, PRINCESS, WOULD YOU BOTH... JUST CALM DOWN ...?
W-WAIT A SECOND, LUCCA!
RRRUMMBLE
STOP!
DA-DAN
THAT'S ENOUGH FROM ALL OF YOU!!

ASH ISN'T TO BLAME.
YOU DO ALL REALIZE THAT YOU COLLECTIVELY MADE THIS HAPPEN BY NOT KNOWING HOW TO CLEAN, RIGHT?


IT WAS FOOLISH OF ME TO ASK THE LOT OF YOU TO HELP WITH THIS.
ALL OF YOU, GET OUT AND COOL YOUR HEADS FOR A BIT.

hustle hustle
PRESIDENT, I'M GOING TO STOP BY THE OPTICIAN.
YOU DO THAT.
BATTERED...

B-BUT --!
UNDER-STOOD, PRESIDENT. FORGIVE US.
BUT NOTHING! LET'S GO.


KA-CLANG...

I-I'M HERE ALONE...
TH-THMP
TH-THMP
TH-THMP
WITH REBEC-CA...!

HUSHED...

.....

O-OKAY, THEN!
HA HA HA!
LET'S DO THIS THING!

I SHOW UP TO SCHOOL FOR THE FIRST TIME IN AGES, AND WHAT DO I FIND?
HM?
WHAT COULD REBECCA AND HER LITTLE GROUP...
BE UP TO INSIDE JULIUS HALL?
WELL, WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR ME.
LET'S GO GET WHAT WE CAME FOR.
ALL RIGHT, TRISTAN?

Sweep
Sweep
I THINK THIS PLACE IS TOO DARN BIG FOR THE TWO OF US TO HANDLE ALONE.
HA HA HA!
ASH.
UM, BUT...
YOU KNOW...

HUH?! ME?! N-NO--!
I-I MEAN, YOU'RE NOT TOTALLY WRONG, BUT...!

ARE YOU FEELING NERVOUS, BY ANY CHANCE?
BULLSEYE
NOW THAT IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US?

Urk!
ARE YOU GONNA MESS WITH ME AGAIN?!
I SUPPOSE IT'S TRUE THAT WE HAVEN'T BEEN COMPLETELY ALONE TOGETHER IN A WHILE.
LAST NIGHT, BOTH ECO AND COSETTE WERE THERE.

HUH?
CLATTER
MESS WITH YOU...?
I CAN'T HELP WONDER-ING...
REBEC-CA...?
A CERTAIN STUDENT COUNCIL PRESI-DENT...
USED HER AUTHORITY TO SEND ALL THOSE OTHER GIRLS AWAY?
CLOK...
WHAT IF...
JUST SUP-POSE...

WHAT IF, AFTER PATIENTLY WAITING FOR THE PERFECT MOMENT...
SHE CAREFULLY CRAFTED A SCENARIO WHERE SHE COULD BE ALONE WITH YOU?

WHAT I'M SAYING IS... I'M NO DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS.
WHA --?
I'M NOT JUST A STERN AUTHORITY FIGURE, ASH.
I'M ALSO A WOMAN.
YOU UNDER-STAND THAT, DON'T YOU...?
CLOK

I'M GETTING A REALLY BAD FEELING.
I'M NOT SURE WHY, BUT...

Chapter XLVII
The Sonic Baron (Part 2)
CHASING US ALL OUT LIKE THAT...
JUST AS I THOUGHT-- SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS IS DEFINITELY GOING ON!!
IT'S A RELIEF TO HAVE THIS MOB OF GIRLS WHO LIKE ASH AWAY FROM HIM, BUT...
THAT REBECCA IS...
IS IT POSSIBLE THAT...

RIGHT AT THIS MOMENT, IS SHE ...?!
DASH!
I...
I NEED TO GO BACK INSIDE!!
HOLD IT! THE PRESIDENT ORDERED US TO STAY OUT HERE UNTIL WE'D THOUGHT ABOUT OUR BEHAVIOR, REMEMBER?!
YEAH, WELL, THAT DOESN'T INCLUDE ME!

……!
WHAT---?
WHOOOOOOSH
?!
WHY, HELLO THERE, LADIES.
HOW IS THIS FINE DAY TREATING YOU?
LOOM...

A DRAGON AND...
SHUDDER
A DRAGO-NAR --!!
MRROOOAAR
WHY DOES THIS FEEL... OMINOUS SOME-HOW?
AND THAT BLACK CRYSTAL IN THE DRAGON'S FOREHEAD IS RADIATING THE STRANGEST MAGIC...!

OH --!
ISN'T THAT ...?!
HUH?
WHO IS IT?
HORNS LIKE A YOUNG DRAGON'S, HMM?
YOU MUST BE ECO.
!!
WHAT IF I AM?!
CLOM
CLOM
?!
CLOM

YOUNG DRAGON ECO...
I HAVE A PRO-POSAL FOR YOU!
BE MY COMRADE FROM THIS DAY FOR-WARD!!
HUH ...?!
I WANT YOU AT MY SIDE!
OR MORE ACCURATELY, WHAT I WANT IS YOUR STRENGTH.
THE STRENGTH OF AVALON, THE IMPERIAL HOUSE OF THE HOLY DRAGONS!
WHAT ?!
YOU... DO YOU SERVE THE EMPIRE ?!!

OH, THAT'S JUST RUDE.
DON'T LUMP ME IN WITH THOSE IMPERIALS AND THEIR ENGINE GREASE!
MY NAME IS...
OSCAR BRAILS-FORD!!
THE MAN WHO'S GOING TO BECOME KING OF CHEV-RON!!
VWIIP
?!
"KING OF CHEV-RON" ...?!
STEP
THAT'S QUITE THE SELF-INTRODUC-TION...
LORD OSCAR.

WELL, WELL...
IF IT ISN'T PRINCESS SYLVIA LALITREA-MONT.
YOU BLEND IN SO WELL WITH THE PEASANTS THAT I DIDN'T NOTICE YOU.

WELL, IF YOU INSIST ON BEING WHOLLY PRACTI-CAL...
ISN'T IT A HUGE STRETCH TO IMAGINE YOURSELF TAKING THE THRONE SOMEDAY?

HEH!
TRUE, AT THE MOMENT I'M STILL LAST IN THE LINE OF SUCCES-SION.

YOU'RE MAKING SOME BIG CLAIMS, BUT...
I SEEM TO RECALL THAT YOU'RE 108TH IN LINE FOR THE THRONE.

BUT IF YOU LET YOURSELF BE ENSLAVED TO SUCH A LIMITED VIEW OF REALITY...
DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU'LL BECOME PALADIN SOMEDAY?
WH-WHAT--?
Dragon
YOU'RE RIGHT: THERE ARE OVER A HUNDRED HEIRS TO THE CHEVRON THRONE.
BUT OF THEM ALL, I AM THE ONLY DRAGONAR!
I HAVE...
GLARE
THE MAESTRO TRISTAN AT MY SIDE!!
THERE IT IS AGAIN.
WHAT'S WITH THE SINISTER IMPRESSION I'M GETTING FROM THIS DRAGON?!

CHEVRON'S LIST OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR ITS ROYAL HEIRS IS SHORT AND STRAIGHTFORWARD, AFTER ALL.
FIRST, CANDIDATES MUST BE MALE, AND--
YES, YES-- THEY HAVE TO BE "THE STRONGEST."
AND THAT'S WHY YOU'RE AFTER ECO, THEN?
YOU'RE QUITE WELL-KNOWN WITHIN THE ACADEMY, SO I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED WHAT YOU'RE REALLY LIKE.
SO FAR, I HAVE TO SAY I'M REVOLTED.
SIGH...
EXACTLY! HOW ARROGANT CAN SOMEONE BE?
NONE OF US WILL LET YOU GET YOUR HANDS ON ECO.

DOES THAT MEAN YOU ALL FEEL UP TO PLAYING WITH TRISTAN?!
OHHH, YOU'RE ALL SO SCARY!
I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD DO THIS! I MEAN, WE'RE STILL ON CAMPUS--!
WAIT!! EVEN IF YOU KNOW EACH OTHER...
W-WAIT!
HUSH, ECO.
HE NEEDS TO BE TAUGHT A LESSON ABOUT THE DAMAGE THAT INAPPROPRIATE ARROGANCE... CAN DO TO ANY ROYALTY!
HEAR ME OUT, WILL YOU--?!

LANCELOT!!
FROOAAR!
GAWAIN!!

AHHH --!!
GOOD GRIEF !!

A-HA! TWO AGAINST ONE?! THAT'S NOT FAIR, IS IT?!
BUT IT SURE SEEMS LIKE FUN!!

STOP IT RIGHT NOW --!!
ASH...
WOULD IT BE ALL RIGHT FOR ME TO TOUCH YOU...?
ER ...
UM, R-RE-BECCA...

BUT I DON'T EVEN WANNA IMAGINE ECO CATCHING US LIKE THIS!
MY HEART WON'T STOP HAMMERING!
TH-THMP
TH-THMP
GLIDE
.....
HUH?
YOU'RE A LOT MORE MUSCULAR THAN YOU LOOK!
OH, I WAS RIGHT!

SIGH...

B-BUT WHY ...?
HEE HEE! COME WITH ME FOR A MOMENT, WOULD YOU?

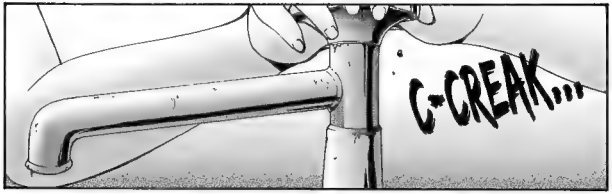
EXACTLY!
IT'S AMAZING!
M-MUSCULAR?
UM...

Heh heh!
WELL, THAT AND THE FACT THAT I THOUGHT IT'D BE EASIER TO SEE HOW FIRM YOUR MUSCLES ARE IF YOU WERE NERVOUS.
THAT'S RIGHT.
WHICH JUST MEANS YOU WERE TEASING ME AGAIN.

BASICALLY THE BATHROOM FAUCET IS TOO RUSTY TO TURN...
AND YOU'RE WONDERING IF I'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE IT WORK?

TH-THMP
TH-THMP
READY?
UH-HUH!

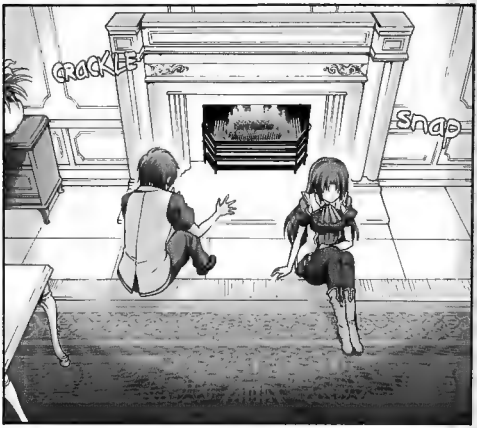
HERE, I'LL HELP TOO.
BETWEEN US WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TURN IT.


C-CREAK...

WE DID IT!!
YEAH!

TWIST

UM... ASH?
WHAT ARE YOU HOLDING...?
HUH?
URK ...!
GET BACK !!
SPROOOSH
GAH!
BUT WE'RE BOTH DRENCHED TO THE BONE NOW.
WELL, AT LEAST MY ORACLE WAS ENOUGH TO FREEZE THE WATER...
WHEW ...!
KA-CHUNK

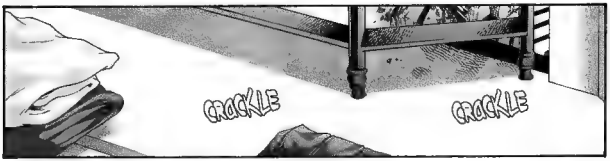


LET'S GO WARM UP BY THE FIRE.

RUSTLE
ACK!
R-REBECCA, WHAT--?!
YOU SHOULD STRIP DOWN, TOO.
DART
N-NO, I'M GOOD! I'LL JUST GO OUTSIDE...!
WAIT, ASH!
IT'S NOT HEALTHY TO SIT AROUND IN WET CLOTHES.

I-I UNDER-STAND.
UH...
AND IT WOULD REFLECT BADLY ON ME, TOO.

THIS WOULD BE A TERRIBLE TIME FOR YOU TO GET SICK.
WITH SUCH AN IMPORTANT FESTIVAL COMING UP...


CRACKLE
CRACKLE

LEAN
!

SNAP
.....
CRACKLE

ASH...
I SHOULD BE HONEST.

BODY HEAT HELPS A LITTLE, DOESN'T IT?
UM ...!

HUH ...?
THERE'S SOME-THING I NEED TO TELL YOU.

WHEN I SAID I WAS WAITING TO BE ALONE WITH YOU...
I WASN'T ENTIRELY KIDDING.

AND IT'S PROBA-BLY BEST...
FOR ME TO SAY IT WHILE IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US.

I'M THINKING OF...
MAKING YOU THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL.

THAT I HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR YOU, REMEMBER?
I'VE SAID BEFORE...
!
HUH?
I'LL BE GRADUATING...
IN SIX MONTHS.
IT'S MY RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND A SUCCESSOR.
AND...
IF I HAD TO NAME SOMEONE AT OUR SCHOOL WHO SURPASSES ME...
ONLY ONE PERSON COMES TO MIND.

BUT...
YOU CAN'T BE SERI-OUS!
ASH.
AND THAT'S YOU...

I WONDER WHAT SHE'S DOING RIGHT NOW.
ECO...
YOU AND ECO BOTH HAVE-- TOGETH-ER.
OF COURSE I AM. YOU'VE BECOME SO MUCH STRON-GER.

WHAT WAS THAT?!
AN EARTH-QUAKE ?!
.....!
NO, THE HYPOCENTER FELT MUCH TOO CLOSE FOR AN EARTH-QUAKE.
IS SOMEONE DOING CONSTRUC-TION ON CAMPUS?
NOT THAT I'M AWARE OF.
VHOOOOOOOOOOM
RATTLE
RATTLE
!!
BUMASH

ECO NEEDS ME!
I CAN FEEL IT!!
THUD
!!
JES-SICA !!
NN-NGH...
R-REBEC-CA...
HE'S...
OUT-SIDE...
"HE"?! WHO?!

THEY WERE... AFTER ECO...
ECO !!
DART
ASH --!!
.....
WH-WHAT?
WHAT HAP-PENED HERE ?!

ASH...
WOBBLE
NO...
YOU HAVE TO... STAY AWAY...
PRIN-CESS ?!
LANCE-LOT ...!!
LUCCA !!
PHUD

YOU!
WHO ARE YOU?!
WHAT ARE YOU?!
RRRRUUUURRRRR

DRAGONAR
ACADEMY

ANSWER ME!
YOU... YOU DID THIS TO THE PRINCESS AND THE OTHERS ...?!
WHO THE HECK...
ARE YOU ?!!

Chapter
XLVIII
The Sonic Baron (Part 3)

HA HA HA!
YOU FINALLY GOT HERE, ASH BLAKE!
OR SHOULD I CALL YOU THE KNIGHT OF AVALON?
WHERE'S ECO?! WHAT DID YOU DO TO HER?!
HA! NO, NO, DON'T WORRY. I DIDN'T DRAG HER INTO THIS.
ACTUALLY, I SUPPOSE I ALLOWED HER TO ESCAPE. ALTHOUGH, I DOUBT SHE'S GOTTEN FAR.
IF YOU'RE AFTER ECO...
ARE YOU IMPERIAL?! WHO SENT YOU?!
YOU'RE JUMPING TO THAT CONCLUSION TOO, HMM?
REBECCA, BE A DEAR AND EXPLAIN THINGS TO HIM, WILL YOU?
HUH?
.....

ASH, THIS IS...
OUR VICE-PRESIDENT.

HIS NAME IS...
OSCAR BRAILSFORD.

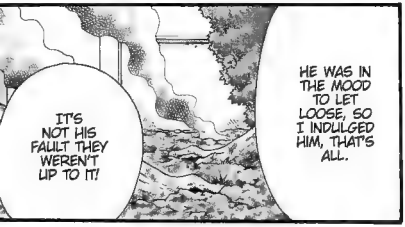
HUH?!
HE'S VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE ANSULLIVAN DRAGONAR ACADEMY STUDENT COUNCIL.

THANKS FOR THE INTRODUCTION, REBECCA.
ALTHOUGH, I WISH YOU'D ALSO MENTIONED THAT I'M GOING TO BE CHEVRON'S KING!

AND I RECEIVED IT!
SADLY, I'M NOT THE KIND OF MAN WHO LIKES TO BE LOCKED INTO ORDINARY EVENTS LIKE THAT.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT... WHO HASN'T BEEN TO SCHOOL IN FOREVER...?
THAT'S RIGHT.
I DID WRITE HIM A LETTER A FEW DAYS AGO, ASKING HIM TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE FOR THE QUINCENTENNIAL FESTIVAL...

BUT YOU *ARE* THE KIND OF MAN WHO RAISES A HAND AGAINST FELLOW COUNCIL OFFICERS, ARE YOU?


HE WAS IN THE MOOD TO LET LOOSE, SO I INDULGED HIM, THAT'S ALL.
IT'S NOT HIS FAULT THEY WEREN'T UP TO IT!

NO, NO! THESE GIRLS TOLD ME THEY *WANTED* TO PLAY WITH TRISTAN...
AND HE GOT A LITTLE TOO EXCITED ABOUT THE IDEA.

ANYWAY, I THINK YOU'RE FOCUSING ON THE WRONG THING HERE.
!
*HE'S SO **CASUAL** AFTER GOING HEAD TO HEAD WITH PEOPLE AS POWERFUL AS THE PRINCESS AND LUCCA...!*

IF YOU DON'T HURRY AND SAVE THE IMPERIAL PRINCESS OF AVALON...
MY SUBORDI-NATE'S GOING TO TAKE HER CAPTIVE.
!!
AND I HAVE TO CONFESS, MY FAVORITE MAID TENDS TO HANDLE THESE SITUATIONS A BIT...ROUGHLY.
BUT THEN AGAIN...
Gwuff!
SINCE MY TRISTAN DIDN'T GET ADEQUATE PLAYTIME WITH OUR FRIENDS...
I'M NOT EXACTLY READY TO LET YOU GET AWAY.
KLA-WUUD
LOOM
GAH ?!

THAT NOISE ...!
I WONDER IF ASH HAS NOTICED WHAT'S HAPPENING YET...?
RUSTLE
HUH ?!
TURN
WHO'S UP THERE ?!
EVEN THOUGH I TOLD THEM NOT TO ENGAGE HIM!
THERE'S NOTHING NORMAL ABOUT THAT DRAGON --!!!
UGH, WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON?
SYLVIA AND THE OTHERS WERE ALL BEATEN...

HMPH!
PERCEPTIVE AREN'T YOU?
NOT THAT IT'LL HELP.
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY FROM ME.
A MAID ?!
ARE YOU THAT BOY'S SERVANT ?!
WELL...
TECHNICALLY, I SUPPOSE THAT'S TRUE.

Back in the capital city...
ER...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
AND I'VE BEEN ORDERED TO CAPTURE YOU.
AGAIN?!
WHY ARE MAIDS ALWAYS CHASING ME?!!
TAKE THAT!
VHHHHP
WELL, WHATEVER. I DON'T REALLY CARE.
SHHK
DON'T FIGHT BACK, ALL RIGHT? IT'S A HASSLE.

YIKES --!
THUNK
THUNK
I THOUGHT YOU'D AT LEAST BE ABLE TO DODGE THAT.
.....
OH, THAT'S JUST SAD.
EEEEEK!!
A-AHHHH...!
THROB...
IT HURTS...!!

UNN-NGH...
STILL MOVING, HMM?
HUP!
THMP
EW, COULD YOU NOT KEEP REACTING LIKE SOME DELICATE FLOWER?
IT GROSSES ME OUT.
IN THAT CASE...
I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO ROUGH YOU UP SOME MORE!
VHHHP

WHIRL
!!
スッ
CLANK
CLINK

C...
CO-SETTE ?!
NN-NHH ...!
CO-SETTE ...!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, ECO?
YOU... YOU KNOW HER?
YES. TECHNICALLY, THE LAFON AND SHELLEY FAMILIES ARE RELATED.
WHY, HELLO, CELESTINA LAFON.
YOU'RE QUITE VIOLENT, AREN'T YOU?

CATTLE SHOULD ...
KNOW THEIR PLACE AND GROVEL AT THE ROADSIDE!
SHF
YOU...!! YOU'RE THE FOURTH PRINCESS'S MAID, AREN'T YOU...?!
SEETHE
ARE YOU GOING TO INTERFERE?
YEE!
FUSUH
THE SAME...
TO YOU! ♡
AS WE SHARE A PROFESSION.

FIGHTING SOMEONE ON FOOT WHILE YOU'RE ON DRAGONBACK IS DIRTY, OSCAR!
TCH!
GET DOWN HERE!
KLA-TOOM
HMPH! PATHETIC EXCUSE FOR A DRAGONAR, AREN'T YOU?
SIGH...
OH, YOU DON'T KNOW?
PEOPLE LIKE ME ARE SPECIAL.
ALSO, SINCE WHEN CAN PEOPLE FROM CHEVRON BECOME DRAGONARS?!
THWUD
YEAH?! WELL, YOU'RE A CONDESCENDING PRICK! AND YOU'RE BEING RIDICULOUS!

YOU'RE RIGHT THAT ORDINARY CITIZENS FROM CHEVRON AREN'T ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ORPHAN CEREMONY.
BUT AN EXCEPTION IS MADE FOR THEIR ROYALTY AND TITLED NOBILITY.
SOME CHILDREN OF OUR COUNTRY PARTICIPATE EVERY YEAR.
BUT I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO'S EVER SUCCEEDED.
WHICH MEANS ...
GRUAAR!
I AM...
DU-DROOSH
THE ONLY DRAGONAR MY PEOPLE HAVE EVER HAD!!

GAAAH!
ASH !!
I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE HERE.
SWOOSH
IT'S UP TO ME TO PUT A STOP TO THIS!
BUOOOH
CÚCHU-LAINN !!

THAT BEST ACCENTS YOUR LOVELY RED HAIR.
WELL, ANGER IS BY FAR THE MOOD...

HAVING A PERSONAL FIGHT ON CAMPUS DOES NOTHING BUT TARNISH THE STUDENT COUNCIL'S NAME.
WITHDRAW FROM HERE, OSCAR.

RE-BECCA ...!
HA! SO, YOU'VE FINALLY BEEN CONVINCED TO ACT, HMM?

I'LL DESTROY YOUR REPUTATION AS THE SCHOOL'S STRONGEST DRAGONAR!
I DO THINK THAT!
GRROOAA!!

OR DO YOU...
HONESTLY THINK YOU CAN DEFEAT ME?

ALL RIGHT, THEN.
JUST...
SSSSSHHHH
REMEMBER YOU BROUGHT THIS ON YOURSELF!
I, OSCAR BRAILS-FORD, COMMAND YOU...
BESTOW UPON ME...
FLASH
!!
THE ARK YOU'VE CRAFT-ED!!

FWOOOOM

THAT'S...
AS YOU CAN SEE...
I'M AN ARK DRAGONAR NOW, TOO!
AN ARK!!
SO HE'S AN-OTHER --!!
AND NOW...
WE'RE EQUALS, REBEC-CA!!
GWHAM

AND JUST REMEMBER...
THE PROMISE YOU ONCE MADE ME!
YOU SAID THAT IF I EVER DEFEATED YOU...
YOU'D BECOME MY QUEEN!!

WH...
WHAT ...?!
THAT ISN'T GOING TO HAPPEN, OSCAR.
YOU COULD NEVER DEFEAT ME-- NOT WITH A THROWN-TOGETHER ARK LIKE THAT ONE!
HA HA! GOOD! I CAN'T WAIT TO SMASH YOUR PRIDE TO SMITHEREENS!
AND THEN, I'LL CLAIM YOU AS MY OWN!
BAA

UNNH ...!
WOOSH
VOOHHHMM

WHAT A BATTLE!
THOSE TWO ARE WORLDS BEYOND NORMAL STUDENTS!
What's going on?
CROWD
CROWD
ASH, ARE YOU AWARE...
THAT OSCAR IS KNOWN BY ANOTHER NAME?
CO-SETTE?
AND ECO!
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT, BUT--
WAIT... HUH?

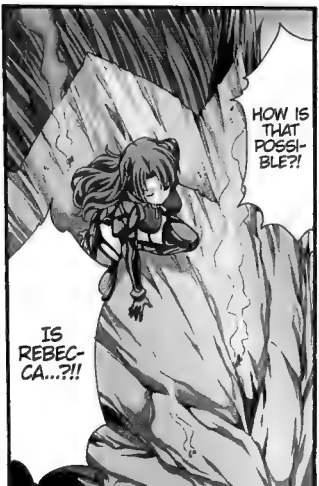
I'M AFRAID I HAD TO RENDER HER UNCONSCIOUS TO PROTECT ECO.
FROTH
FROTH
FLUMP
.....
WHO'S SHE?
THIS IS CELES, OSCAR'S MAID.
BUT OH, I DO SO HATE DISPLAYING MY BATTLE PROWESS IN FRONT OF ANYONE ELSE.
HEE HEE!
I'M NEVER, NEVER, NEVER GONNA CROSS HER!
SO... YOU SAID OSCAR HAS ANOTHER NAME...?
AH, YES. ♡
HE'S ALSO CALLED...
THE SONIC BARON.

UM...
IF... IF HE CAN EVEN BEAT REBECCA... WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO ME?
WELL... YEAH, HE SURE IS FAST.
MAYBE EVEN FASTER THAN REBECCA.
PET PET
YEEP!
C'MON, NOW.
I THINK YOU'RE FORGETTING SOMEONE KINDA MAJOR.
YOU'VE GOT A KNIGHT.

A KNIGHT WITHOUT A STEED IS NOTHING BUT A FOOT SOLDIER!
BUT, OF COURSE, I'D BE NOTHING ON MY OWN.
I- I KNOW THAT!
AND WHEN THE TIME COMES, I'LL MAKE AN ARK ESPECIALLY FOR YOU!
BUT IT'S STILL INCOM-PLETE, RIGHT?
HOW DARE YOU?!
AND YOU JUST PETTED MY HEAD WITHOUT MY PERMISSION AGAIN!
TEE HEE!
THEY REALLY HAVE...
BECOME A KNIGHT AND HIS PRINCESS, HAVEN'T THEY?

ドオオオー
THR-SLAAAM

WHAT A WONDER-FUL DAY, REBECCA!
I'M ABOUT TO MAKE YOU MINE!


HOW IS THAT POSSI-BLE?!
IS REBEC-CA...?!!

YOU'VE FINALLY RECOGNIZED MY STRENGTH AND DECIDED TO BECOME MY BRIDE?
NOT AT ALL.
Quick answer.
BUT YOU'RE RIGHT THAT I WAS DISMISSING YOU.
I DIDN'T EXPECT THAT YOU'D BE AS STRONG AS YOU ARE.
IT LOOKS LIKE...
I'LL HAVE TO FIGHT SERIOUSLY, TOO.
?!
MY BELOVED STEED...
CÚCHULAINN!

I, REBECCA RANDALL, COMMAND YOU...
FLASH
SSSSHHHSSSSH
TO REVEAL THE TRUE FORM OF THE ARK YOU'VE BESTOWED UPON ME!

RUSTLE

HER ARK...
IS WAY HEAVIER THAN BEFORE ...!!
I'M AFRAID THAT...
SHRUU
THE ROLE OF QUEEN IS TOO RIGID FOR ME.
I HOPE YOU CAN UNDER-STAND...
OSCAR.
GA-CLANK...

Chapter
XLIX
The Sonic Baron (Part 4)

YOU SLY VIXEN --!!
SO ALL THIS TIME, YOU'VE BEEN HOLDING BACK WHILE FIGHTING ME?!!
BUT APPARENTLY, THAT'S A LUXURY I CAN'T AFFORD.
WITH SO MANY STUDENTS AROUND...
I DIDN'T WANT TO RISK DRAGGING THEM INTO THE FIGHT.
CONGRATULATIONS ON FORCING ME TO GO ALL OUT...
OSCAR !!!

Come hither...
Magic spear that ever flies true!!!
CLANK
KA-CLUNK
I'VE NEVER SEEN IT LOOK LIKE THAT!
THAT'S GAE BULG'S TRUE FORM ?!!
TCH!

Gae Bulg ...
Wheel of For- tune!!!

HOW CAN I CLAIM THE THRONE IF I CAN'T EVEN CLAIM YOU?!
YOU --!!!
MAGIC BOW THAT HITS ANY TARGET!
SHOOM
COME HITHER ...
WHOSE NAME IS...
THE FAIL-NAUGHT !!!

AND "FAIL-NAUGHT" MEANS...
JUST WHAT IT SOUNDS LIKE.
I UNDERSTAND IT'S A MAGIC BOW THAT RECEIVED ITS NAME...
BECAUSE NOT A SINGLE SHOT LOOSED FROM IT WILL EVER MISS ITS MARK.
BUT...
THAT'S AWFULLY SIMILAR TO HOW REBECCA'S GAE BULG IS SUPPOSED TO ALWAYS HIT WHATEVER IT'S THROWN AT, ISN'T IT?

NOW, REBECCA! I'VE NEVER LIKED HOW YOUR GAE BULG'S POWER IS SO SIMILAR TO MY BOW'S!
I'M GOING TO SNAP THAT WRETCHED SPEAR IN HALF!
LET'S DO THIS !!!
DRO-DROOSH

RUR
RUR
RUR
RUR
RUR
GUH ...!!
I... WON'T... LOSE !!!
STRAIN STRAIN...
SHIFT

REBECCA WAS SHOVING HIM BACK BEFORE, BUT HE'S STARTING TO RALLY!
WOW... OSCAR'S REALLY SOME-THING!
I'M AFRAID WE'LL HAVE EVEN BIGGER PROB-LEMS!
NO. AND IF THIS CONTIN-UES...
IS SHE GOING TO BE OKAY ...?!
BUT IF SHE'S FIGHTING ALL OUT...
IF THOSE TWO KEEP FENDING EACH OTHER OFF WITH THEIR OWN WEAPONS, THEY'LL STAY DEADLOCKED... AND THE MAGIC WILL JUST KEEP GROWING. IT COULD HAVE HORRIFIC EFFECTS ON THEM.
AND IF NEITHER CAN MISS, AND BOTH ARE DESTINED TO CRUSH THEIR ENEMIES IN A SINGLE BLOW... ANY NEED TO STRIKE AGAIN UNDERMINES EVERYTHING THOSE WEAPONS EXIST FOR.
GAE BULG AND THE FAILNAUGHT ARE BOTH WEAPONS THAT NEVER MISS.

ECO !!!
WH...
WHAT ARE YOU PLAN-NING?!
CAN YOU MAKE AN ARK FOR ME?!!
TCH ...!

WE WON'T KNOW UNTIL WE TRY!
IS THAT EVEN POSSI-BLE?!

I'M GONNA USE EXCALIBUR TO TAKE BOTH OF THOSE WEAPONS OUT AT ONCE!
IT'S THE ONLY WAY I CAN SEE!

YOU'RE ALWAYS SO RECK-LESS!!!
FINE! HANG ON!!!

ALMETE! GORJAL!
PETO! ESPALDAR! BRA-FONERAS!
VWOOOO
FALDAJE! BUFETAS! BRAZALES!
CODALES! ANTE-BRAZOS!
MANOP-LAS! QUI-JOTES! GUAR-DAS!!
VHHHSSS
ESPO-LON !!!

GASP ...!
H-HOW... WAS THAT? THAT'S... THE FASTEST... I'VE EVER MADE IT...!
AS USUAL, THE ARK DOESN'T HAVE AN ACTUAL SHAPE OF ITS OWN...
BUT I FEEL ITS POWER EVEN MORE INTENSELY THAN BEFORE!
THANKS ...
!
Yeep!
ECO.

HURRY!
LEAP
FRUR
FRUR
FRUR
FRUR

DAMN ...!
I DIDN'T EXPECT THINGS TO GO THIS WAY.
AT THIS RATE, WE'LL BOTH FALL!
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER THAN TO ACCEPT A PERSONAL CHALLENGE...
YIIIAAAAH!!
ASH ?!!

I'M GONNA SEVER ...
KIII
WHAT --?!
KIII
THE DESTINY SHOOTING THROUGH YOU, REBECCA...
AND THE DESTINY SPEARING OSCAR!!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THEM!!!

TH...
THIS IS...!
EXCALIBUUUUR!!!
DWHOOM
THAT SWORD IS...
SOAK-ING UP OUR CLASH-ING MAGIC!

ASH...
.....!!
SWOOOOOSHHHH
SWISH
FWIRL
FMMM
!!!
UGH..!

OSCAR BRAILS-FORD !!!
HERE AND NOW, DO YOU HAVE THE WILL TO FIGHT THE KNIGHT OF AVALON ?!!
TH-THMP...

WHAT DID I JUST HEAR?
WHAT ...?
WAS THAT...
THE SOUND OF MY HEART SKIPPING A BEAT...?
SOME-THING LIKE THIS...
IT'S A FIRST FOR ME.

A FEELING LIKE THIS...

I'LL LET YOU OFF THE HOOK FOR NOW!!
BUT I'M NOT GIVING UP ON REBECCA OR ECO!
HMPH!
WSH
SWOOOP
.....

HMM?
YOU WANNA KNOW ABOUT OSCAR BRAILSFORD?
WELL, YOU'RE NOT WRONG.
JUST A SECOND. LET'S SEE...
YEP.
YOU'RE ALWAYS IN THE LOOP. WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME?
OSCAR, OSCAR...
.....
FLIP FLIP
UH, RAYMOND?
ISN'T THAT THE BOOK WHERE YOU KEEP PROFILES OF THE FEMALE STUDENTS?
RIGHT AGAIN!
IT'S MY PRIDE AND JOY! MY MOST TREASURED BOOK!
BUT... OSCAR'S A BOY, SO WHAT USE IS IT?
HEH! YOU'VE STILL GOT A LOT TO LEARN, HUH?

SOME PEOPLE ARE JUST SO BEAUTIFUL OR ADORABLE...
THAT IT TRANSCENDS GENDER!
YOU'LL UNDERSTAND SOMEDAY.

LET'S SEE HERE.
OSCAR BRAILSFORD IS...

ACTUALLY, I'D RATHER NOT.
UM... SURE. JUST TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW.

A SECOND-YEAR SENIOS FROM THE KINGDOM OF CHEVRON.
EVEN THOUGH HE SKIPS PRACTICALLY ALL OF HIS CLASSES AND SCHOOL EVENTS, HE'S STILL AT THE TOP OF THE CLASS.
HIS INCREDIBLE GRADES MEAN THE TEACHERS CAN'T GRIPE ABOUT HIS ABSENCES...
AND AS COUNCIL PRESIDENT, REBECCA'S HAD TO ACKNOWLEDGE HIS TALENTS AS HER VICE-PRESIDENT.

HUH?
BUT I THOUGHT THE BRAILSFORDS WERE ONE OF CHEVRON'S NOBLE FAMILIES.
NOW, SINCE HIS PARENTS ARE THE CURRENT KING OF CHEVRON AND ONE OF THE KING'S LOVERS, HE HAS A LEGITIMATE CLAIM TO THRONE.
BUT HIS MOTHER WAS A COMMONER, SO HE'S 108TH IN LINE.
I FIGURED IT WAS HIS MOTHER'S FAMILY NAME.
I DON'T HAVE DETAILS, BUT APPARENTLY, OSCAR'S MOTHER DIED WHEN HE WAS YOUNG...
AND HE WAS ADOPTED INTO THE BRAILSFORD HOUSEHOLD.
GOTCHA.
AND THAT'S PRETTY MUCH ALL I'VE GOT.
THAT ALL SOUNDS REALLY COMPLICATED.
THANKS. I'LL KEEP ASKING AROUND.
SO...

POUT
I REALLY WANT TO GO HOME AND TAKE A BATH.
IT'S BEEN A LONG DAY!
URK! OKAY, LET'S GO.
SCHOOL FINISHED AGES AGO. HOW LONG WERE YOU GONNA KEEP ME WAITING?
YOU'VE BEEN TALKING FOR EVER
OH! SORRY, ECO.
I DID MANAGE TO LEARN A LITTLE MORE ABOUT HIM FROM THE OTHERS.
AS FOR OSCAR...
TURNS OUT THAT HE DOES COME TO CLASS ONCE IN A WHILE, BUT HE NEVER PARTICIPATES IN ANY KIND OF OVERNIGHT EVENTS.
AND HE ABSOLUTELY REFUSES TO SHARE A ROOM WITH ANYONE.
THERE'S STILL PLENTY I DON'T KNOW, THOUGH.
BUT ONE THING'S FOR SURE: HE'S GOT HIS EYES ON ECO.
HE MAY NOT BE AS DANGEROUS AS THE EMPIRE, BUT I HAVE TO BE CAUTIOUS.

ASH...
squeak
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE HE MADE ME FEEL THAT WAY...

REALLY BE THE SOURCE OF SO MUCH STRENGTH ...?!
CAN HIS BOND WITH ECO...
HE'S GROWN SO MUCH...!
AND I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE HIS ARK IN MY LIFE.
PANG
スキ...
THE BOND... BE-TWEEN THEM...
AND JUST THINK, THE ARK ISN'T EVEN FINISHED YET.
HEH!
IF IT EVER IS...
I WONDER HOW MUCH STRONGER IT MIGHT BECOME ...?
TMP

AHH...
I'M CONSIDERED THE MOST POWERFUL DRAGONAR, BUT IT'LL SURPASS ME...
AND ITS STRENGTH WILL PROBABLY GO WELL BEYOND THAT.
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT!
FSSSSH

HMPH!
ASH BLAKE, HUH?
DON'T YOU THINK YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH TO DRINK?
DON'T YOU WORRY YOURSELF ABOUT ME.
I DON'T LIKE HIM ONE BIT.
IN A WAY, I DISLIKE HIM EVEN MORE THAN REBECCA.
AREN'T YOU THE ONE WE SHOULD WORRY ABOUT, CELES? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
WEREN'T YOU FOAMING AT THE MOUTH?
OH, SHUT UP!
I'M FINE!
AH, WELL.
I DID LEARN SOMETHING VALUABLE FROM THE WHOLE ORDEAL.

I'LL HAVE TO TWEAK MY PLANS A LITTLE TO ACCOUNT FOR HIM.
ASH BLAKE IS WAY MORE AGGRAVATING THAN I EXPECTED.

I WILL DO WHATEVER THAT TAKES!

THE GREATEST FESTIVAL IN ANSULLIVAN HISTORY WILL BEGIN SOON.
HEH HEH...!

AND I'LL TAKE YOU, REBECCA, AS MY WIFE!!!
AND WHEN IT DOES, I'LL CLAIM THE YOUNG DRAGON ECO'S STRENGTH AND BECOME THE STRONGEST...

REBECCA...
NO MATTER WHAT, I'LL MAKE YOU MINE!!

THE ANSUL-LIVAN QUINCEN-TENNIAL FESTIVAL ...
IS GOING TO BE MY DAY OF CELE-BRATION !!!
to be continued.

DRAGONAR
ACADEMY

AFTERWORD

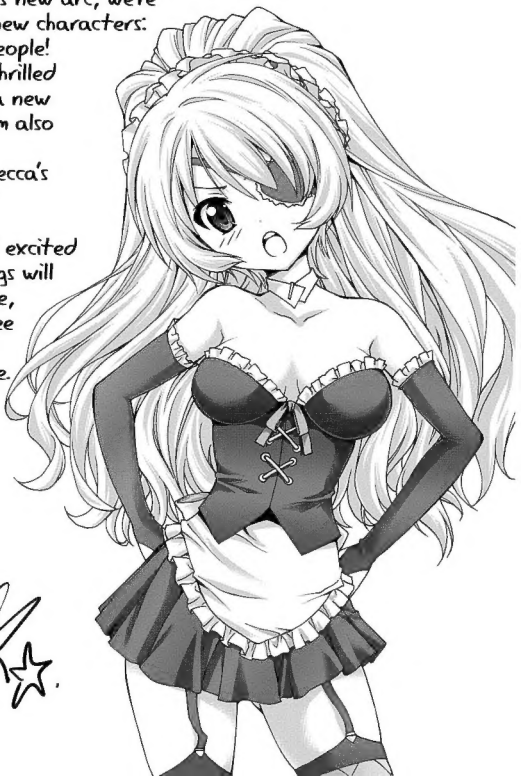
It's me, RAN.

Thanks so much to everyone who picked up volume 10 of the *Dragonar Academy* manga.

As we start this new arc, we're meeting a few new characters: Oscar and his people! Naturally, I'm thrilled to be drawing a new maid (laughs). I'm also ecstatic about illustrating Rebecca's true strength!

I hope you're all excited to see how things will unfold from here, and I hope to see you all again in the next volume.

Ran



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Ash Blake, a senior at Ansullivan Dragonar Academy, is no typical student. Not only does he have the ability to ride any dragon, but his own Steed, Eco, has the body of a beautiful young girl instead of a dragon!

Ash, Eco, and Sylvia have returned from their trip to Albion Forest, where Ash met the Mother Dragon and learned crucial information that helped put Eco's mind at ease. But Sylvia's bold behavior has left the relationship between the three of them anything but easy...

OLDER TEEN (16+)

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